

Def. Doc. No. 1937

EDITORIAL OF THE TIMES, LONDON,
JUNE 20, 1941

Reporting to Tokyo

The departure of the JAPANESE AMBASSADOR on a short visit to Tokyo will provide the Japanese Government with an excellent opportunity of obtaining authentic first-hand information on conditions in this country. Such a supplement to the reports furnished by Mr. MATSUOKA after his recent tour of the German, Italian, and Russian capitals should prove valuable, and no one is better qualified to furnish it. Whatever view may have been taken of the policies of the Government which he represents, Mr. SHIGEMITSU has won personal respect everywhere in London for his method of presenting them. He has witnessed at close quarters the steady and unflinching development of the British war effort and the temper and endurance of the British people under the most exacting conditions. Confidence may be felt that his report to the Japanese Government will do full justice both to the strength and to the resolution of the British Government and of the whole nation.

It is natural, and also useful, that Mr. SHIGEMITSU should intend to stop in Washington on his way for consultation with the JAPANESE AMBASSADOR there. Like Mr. SHIGEMITSU, ADMIRAL NOMURA is regarded as a moderate and has exerted himself, in so far as the policy of his Government allowed, to prevent a worsening of

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relations between Japan and the United States. While it does not fall within the task of an Ambassador to frame policy, the visit of Mr. SHIGEMITSU to Tokyo should provide an assurance that full weight will be given in the national councils to the reactions of that policy on the countries of the English-speaking world. There can at any rate be no longer any excuse for the somewhat one-sided appreciation of the situation which has appeared at times to prevail in certain Japanese official circles.

東京へ報告ノ爲

一九四一年六月二十日倫敦「タイムズ」紙社説

日本ノ大使ガ短期間東京ヘ向ケ出發スルコトハ當國ノ事情ニ關スル正シ
イ直接ノ情報ヲ東京政府ノ情報ヲ東京政府ニ與ヘル極メテヨイ機會トナ
ラウ。カウシテ最近獨、伊及ビ露西亞ノ首都ヲ旅行ノ上松岡氏ガ行ツタ
報告ヲ補足スルコトハ貴重ナコトデアツテ、カカル補足ヲナスニ之以上
ノ人ハナイ。同大使本國政府ノ政策ニ付テドウ見ルニシテモ、重光氏ハ
右政策ヲ行フニ當リ氏ノヤリ方ニヨツテ倫敦到ル處ニ於テ個人的尊敬ヲ
カチ得タ。氏ハ英國ノ戦争ニ對ス、努力ノ着々トシテヒルム所ナク進ン
デ行クコ、及ビ最モ苦シイ情況ノ下ニ於ケル英國國民ノ氣分及ビ忍耐ヲ親
シク目撃シタ。氏ノ日本政府ニ對スル報告ハ英國政府及ビ全國民ノ力及
ビ決意ガ共ニ十分正解セラレルコトハ確カト思ツテ差支ナイ。
重光氏ガ歸途「ワシントン」ニアル日本ノ大使ト協議スル爲同地ニ立寄
ラウトシシ居ルコトハ當然デアリ又有ナ事デアル。野村大將ハ重光氏
ト同様、溫和主義者ト見ラレ、本國政府ノ政策ノ許ス限り日米關係ノ惡

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化ヲ阻止スル爲努力シテ來テ居ル。政策ヲダテルコトハ大使ノ任務デハ
ナイガ、重光氏ノ東京行ハ、コノ政策ニ對スル英語ヲ用フル世界ノ國々
ニ於ケル反動ガ國內ノ重要ナル會議ニ於テ十分重要視セラレルコトヲ保
障スルモノデアル。今トモ日本ノ一部官界ニ於テ時々行ハレタヤウナ
情勢ノ稍々一方制ニ見方ハモハヤ言譯ハ立タナイノデアアル。

all nations. And after the expiration of any armament limitation agreement, it must be borne in mind that the Imperial Government will not tolerate the conclusion of any agreement which will continue to force upon us disadvantageous conditions and make our national defense insecure.